Sale of Surplus Land of Textile Mills

443. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sell surplus land with the textile mills;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the amount accrued therefrom shall be used to modernise and start these mills;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Government has approved the revival plan for NTC envisaging revival of all revivable units and closure of non-revivable mills after giving attractive VRS options to workers. The Government proposes to fund the revival plan largely through the sale of surplus land of NTC mills. Proposal for revival have been submitted to the Operating Agency by the NTC who will file the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme before the BIFR.

In respect of BIC Woollen mills, the Govenment has approved a revival plan to be largely funded through sale of surplus lands.

Textile crisis in the Country

444. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Ministry has been drawn to the news circulated by PTI/UNI on 17th June, 2001, which appeared on 18th June, 2001 in dailies, including Ganasakti Calcutta over Textile crisis;

(b) whether it is a fact that FICCI in its recent report has concluded that 121 composite mills are closed and export has gone down by 50 per cent; and

(c) if so, the response of Government?

TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) The newsitem appeared in Ganasakti on 18.6.2001 was about the handloom sector of the textile industry.

The Government of India, in partnership with the State/UT Governments, have been implementing several schemes to accelerate the growth and development of the handloom sector. Some of the importance ones are Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Workshed-cum-Housing, Thrift Fund, Health Package, Insurance Schemes etc.

During the financial year 2000-2001, seven (07) composite mills of cotton/man-made fibre textile were closed.

The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established the BIFR with a view to timely detection of sick & potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions.

During 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, exports of textiles have registered an increase of 13.30% & 21.40%, respectively.

Government of India have taken a number of steps to help the textile industry and make it more competitive. Some of these are as follows:

(i) For modernisation of textile and jute industries the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been launched *w.e.f.* 1.4.1999 for a period of five years.

(ii) The Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) has been launched to improve quality, productivity and production of cotton thereby to make the quality cotton available to the user industry.

(iii) A Textile Package has been announced for modernisation of powerloom sector.

(iv) A chain of textile testing laboratories have been set up to help industry in assessing the quality of textiles.

(v) For import of capital goods, the Export Promotion of Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme has been simplified.

(vi) Export and Import of cotton are under OGL keeping in view the interest of the industry as well as the cotton growers.

(vii) In order to imporve the viability and competitiveness of textile industry, efforts are on to rationalise fiscal duty structure in consultation with industry and other concerned organisation.

(viii) Re-structuring of the support system organisations has been undertaken for re-defining their role and functions in the changed scenario.

(ix) Initiated measures for application of information technology in the textile trade and industry.

Plan to sell off ITDC Hotels

445. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a plan to sell off some of the major hotels under the India Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of hotels selected togetherwith the terms and conditions of the privatisation; and

(c) whether it is also proposed to downsize the manpower through voluntary retirement or any other apppropriate schemes and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Based on the